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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

ANDERSON, REBECCA L

ART UNIT

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1626

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/553,731	Applicant(s) HUBSCHWERLEN ET AL.	
	Examiner REBECCA L. ANDERSON	Art Unit 1626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 November 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6,7 and 17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 8-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 8-15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/13/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-15 and 17 are currently pending in the instant application. Claims 6, 7 and 17 are withdrawn from further consideration as being for non-elected subject matter. Claims 1-5 and 8-15 are objected and rejected.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election with traverse of Group I and the election of compound of example 7 in the reply filed on 28 November 2008 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that there is no undue burden. This is not found persuasive because the inventions are independent and distinct because there is no patentable co-action between the groups and a reference anticipating one member will not render another obvious. Each group is directed to art recognized divergent subject matter which require different searching strategies for each group. Moreover, the examiner must perform a commercial database search on the subject matter of each group in addition to a paper search, which is quite burdensome to the examiner.

As per MPEP 803.02, the examiner will determine whether the entire scope of the claims is patentable. Applicants' elected species of example 7 is not allowable. Therefore, according to MPEP 803.02: the elected species shall be rejected, and claims to the nonelected species will be held withdrawn from further consideration.

As the elected species has been found not allowable, the Markush-type claims have been rejected and claims to the nonelected invention held withdrawn from further consideration.

Claims 1-5 and 8-15 have been examined to the extent that they are

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readable on the elected embodiment, the compound of example 7. Since the elected species is not allowable, subject matter not embraced by the elected embodiment is therefore withdrawn from further consideration. It has been determined that the entire scope claimed is not patentable.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-5 and 8-15 are objected to as containing non-elected subject matter. Claims 1-5 and 8-15 presented drawn solely to the elected embodiment would overcome this objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

As stated in the MPEP 2164.01 (a), "There are many factors to be considered when determining whether there is sufficient evidence to support a determination that a disclosure does not satisfy the enablement requirement and whether any necessary experimentation is "undue."

In *In re Wands*, 8 USPQ2d 1400 (1988), factors to be considered in determining whether a disclosure meets the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, have need described. They are:

1. the nature of the invention,
2. the state of the prior art,
3. the predictability or lack thereof in the art,
4. the amount of direction or guidance present,

5. the presence or absence of working examples,
6. the breadth of the claims,
7. the quantity of experimentation needed, and
8. the level of the skill in the art.

Claims 1-5 and 8-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for products of the elected embodiment and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or formulations thereof, does not reasonably provide enablement for solvates or hydrates of said product. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make/use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

The nature of the invention

In the instant case, the claims are read as products of the elected embodiment or salts, formulations, or solvates or hydrates of said product.

The state of the prior art and the predictability or lack thereof in the art

In regards to solvates and hydrates, according to Byrn, et al., “the occurrence of hydrated or solvated crystal forms, crystals in which solvent molecules occupy regular positions in the crystal structure, is widespread but *by no means universal among drug substances.*” (emphasis added). Byrn, et al. “Solid State Chemistry of Drugs”, 2d ed., SSCI, Inc., Ch. 10 Polymorphs, pp. 232-247, 232 (1999). Most drug crystals that fall into the category of solvates are hydrates. *Id.* at 236.

While the level of skill in pharmacology and organic chemistry is exceedingly high, there is no absolute predictability as to which solvates will function as intended. Byrn notes that the water molecule is particularly suited to fill structural voids, due to its small size. *Id.* In hydrated crystal structures, water molecules bind to other water

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molecules but also to any available functional group, i.e. carbonyls, amines, alcohols, and many others which are capable of accepting or donating an active hydrogen atom to form hydrogen bonds. *Id.* Also, the behavior of hydrates of pharmaceuticals is unpredictable due to dehydration prior to melting, and cracking during dehydration. *Id.* at 234. Too, hydrates and solvates may only be formed under certain conditions, dependent upon the compounds sought to be crystallized. Such a process is not a given in pharmacology and requires a great deal of research, with no guarantee of success.

Furthermore, the stability of solvates and hydrates is not altogether predictable, wherein said stability directly affects the properties of a given molecule. This lack of stability means a hydrate or solvate, if found to possess similar properties as the target compound, may not function as intended *in vivo*. Such facts lead to the conclusion that more than a mere recitation is needed in order to support a claim to solvates and hydrates. Creating functional solvates and hydrates with the same properties as the mother-compound is by no means routine, thus there must be a showing sufficient to satisfy the enablement requirement.

The amount of direction or guidance present and the presence or absence of working examples

The only direction or guidance present is for products and salts and formulations.

The breadth of the claims

The breadth of the claims includes products, salts, formulations and solvates and hydrates, thereof.

The quantity of experimentation needed and the level of the skill in the art

The level of difficulty required to produce functional hydrates and solvates is extremely high. The level of skill in pharmacology/organic chemistry is also very high. However, despite such a high level of skill in the requisite art, the creation of solvates and hydrates is unpredictable to the extent that undue experimentation is required in order to make and use solvates and hydrates of the claimed compounds. There is an insufficient showing in the Specification, or the state of the art does not acknowledge that the solvates and hydrates of the claimed compounds can be created via routine experimentation.

Therefore, Applicant's Specification does not enable one of ordinary skill in the art to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with the claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Rebecca L. Anderson whose telephone number is (571) 272-0696. Mrs. Anderson can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 6:00am until 2:30pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Mr. Joseph K. McKane, can be reached at (571) 272-0699.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*/Rebecca Anderson/
Primary Examiner, AU 1626*

21 January 2009

Rebecca Anderson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1626, Group 1620
Technology Center 1600